

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 1-41 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 17-41 are canceled. Thus, claims 1-16 are pending and subject to examination.

In the Office Action mailed February 8, 2005, claims 1-16 were allowed. Claims 17-30 and 37-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aoki in view of Yamada. Claims 33-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Aoki (U.S. Patent No. 5, 306,906). Claims 37 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamada (JP 10-136391). Claim 41 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada in view of Yamada and further in view of Sakota et al. (U.S. 5,376,967).

By the instant amendment, claims 17-41 are canceled, thereby rendering these rejections moot.

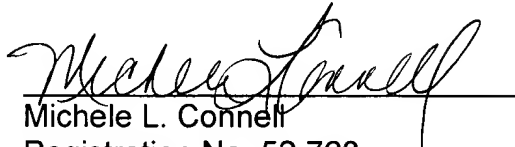
Accordingly, claims 1-16 are pending and are allowed. Thus, early issuance of a Notice of Allowability is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of this application is hereby requested, and an early and favorable action upon all pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account
No. 01-2300, **referencing client matter number 107317-00011.**

Respectfully submitted,
ARENT FOX PLLC


Michele L. Connell
Registration No. 52,763

Customer No. 004372
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.,
Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6104
Fax: (202) 857-6395

WC/MLC:sg